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As already said, however, Mr. Stevenson's generous citations supply much of this deficiency. All in all, these volumes are a credit to American scholarship and form a permanent and important contribution. The bibliographies, tables of globes and globe-makers (in which something like 850 globes are listed), and the index, are particularly praiseworthy. Mention must also be made of Mr. C. S. Rollins, under whose supervision the volumes are printed. The Yale Press here has given us a glimpse of the heights which American book-making is capable of reaching.

LOUIS MORTON HACKER.

Brooklyn, New York.

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AN INTRODUCTION TO THE THEORY OF RELATIVITY. By L. Bolton. New York: E. P. Dutton and Company. 1921. Pp. x, 177.

When the writer of this notice first read Mr. Bolton's prize-winning essay in the *Scientific American*, while he himself was somewhat fortified by having read a number of books and articles on the subject, he felt that to the layman trying for the first time to ascertain what is meant by Einstein's Relativity, this essay could not prove satisfactory. This is really no reflection on so concise an effort, for what more could be expected when it was limited to three thousand words? Be this as it may, the little volume before us makes an intricate matter so clear that we forget any vagueness or lack of clearness in the shorter essay. The object of the author, as he announces in his preface, is to enable the reader to get the *general drift* of the subject. "The object is to show that the conclusions of the subject develop easily and naturally out of the search for a general mode of statement of physical laws."

Mr. Bolton has succeeded admirably in doing this while making use of only very elementary mathematics. The first eleven chapters deal with the Restricted Theory of Relativity, and physical and mechanical laws leading up to it. In Chapter XII is begun the discussion of the General Principle of Relativity, and in Chapter XVIII the Gravitation Theory is taken up. A feature of the book is the summary at the end of each chapter, which will be found most helpful. In such a brief notice as

this it is clearly impossible to do justice to this volume. Of all the treatments that the writer has read, he does not hesitate to say that, in his opinion, the layman will find this book by Mr. Bolton the clearest and most satisfying. S. M. B.

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THE MANUALE SCHOLARIUM. Translated by Robert Francis Seybolt, Associate Professor of the History of Education in the University of Illinois. Cambridge and New York: The Harvard University Press. 1921. Pp. 122, including Appendix and Bibliography.

The *Manuale*, of unknown authorship, first appeared in 1481. For the next several centuries it had a *succès de fou*. Edition after edition was brought out. Professor Seybolt's excellent translation into fluent, colloquial English makes it accessible to the American public, and sooner or later it will find its way into a great many college libraries. The book deals with university life.

In form it is a series of dialogues, touching the registration and initiation of new students; the "special treatment" (of which this is the first notice) accorded to freshmen (who were then called 'beani') by the old students; undergraduate views of exercises and lectures ('cuts' were popular then, too, and stringent regulations had to be passed by the university); methods and courses of study, with the requirements for the degree of *Artium Baccalaureus*; poetry and law; students' recreations; table talk; quarrels among students; examinations; university regulations; girls; "how the student ought to reply when questioned concerning the customs of the university"; matters of good form; etc., etc. In short, no college annual ever gave so complete a survey of student life and thought. Even though these were students of the Middle Ages, human nature has not altered greatly, except that freshmen now have less indignity to endure, an easier gauntlet to run, before being admitted to "the privileges of the university". The original is not in the best Ciceronian Latin, and in this translation one or two mistakes of interpretation have been cleared up. The content of the book far outweighs its form. There is no denying that, in spite of the fact that the book raises about as many questions as it set-